A SPLENDID BADGE FOR YOU!

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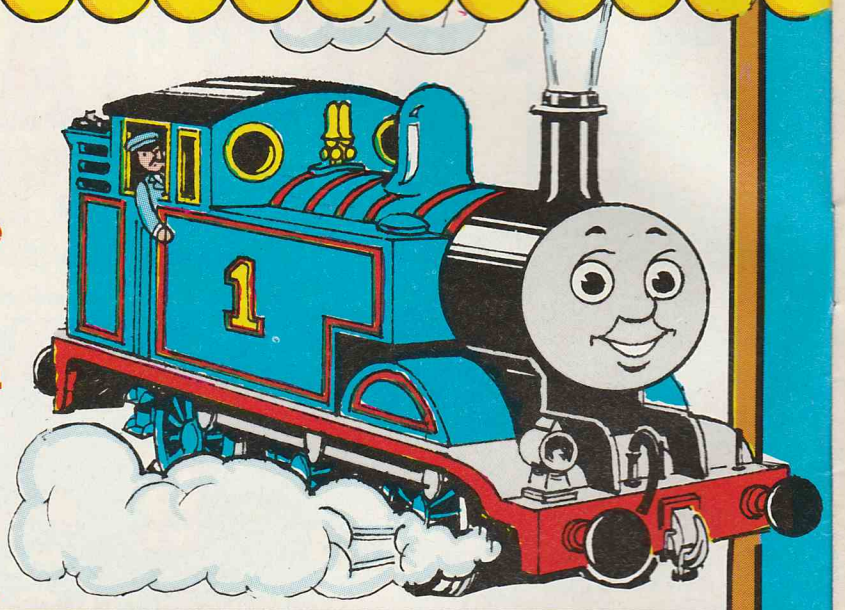
No.52 40p

THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE & FRIENDS

Based on The Railway Series by The Rev. W. Awdry

THE THOMAS CLUB PAGE

Peep! Peep! Bill and Ben have gone to work in the big yard. After a problem on the turntable, they have ended up face to face on the same track. Oh dear, they are both too stubborn to move! Peep! Peep!



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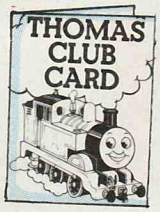

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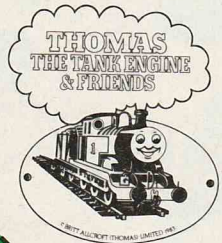
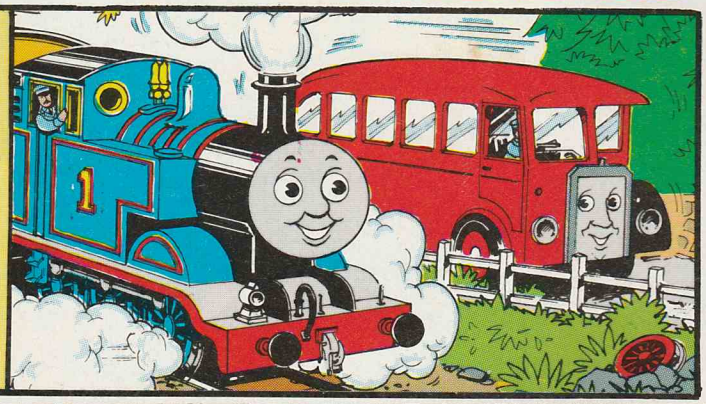
SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT!

There's a second splendid foam badge just for you in Thomas the Tank Engine issue 53! Don't miss it!



In our next issue: There is a bit of a surprise for Bertie as he travels along a bumpy road!



THOMAS TOKEN

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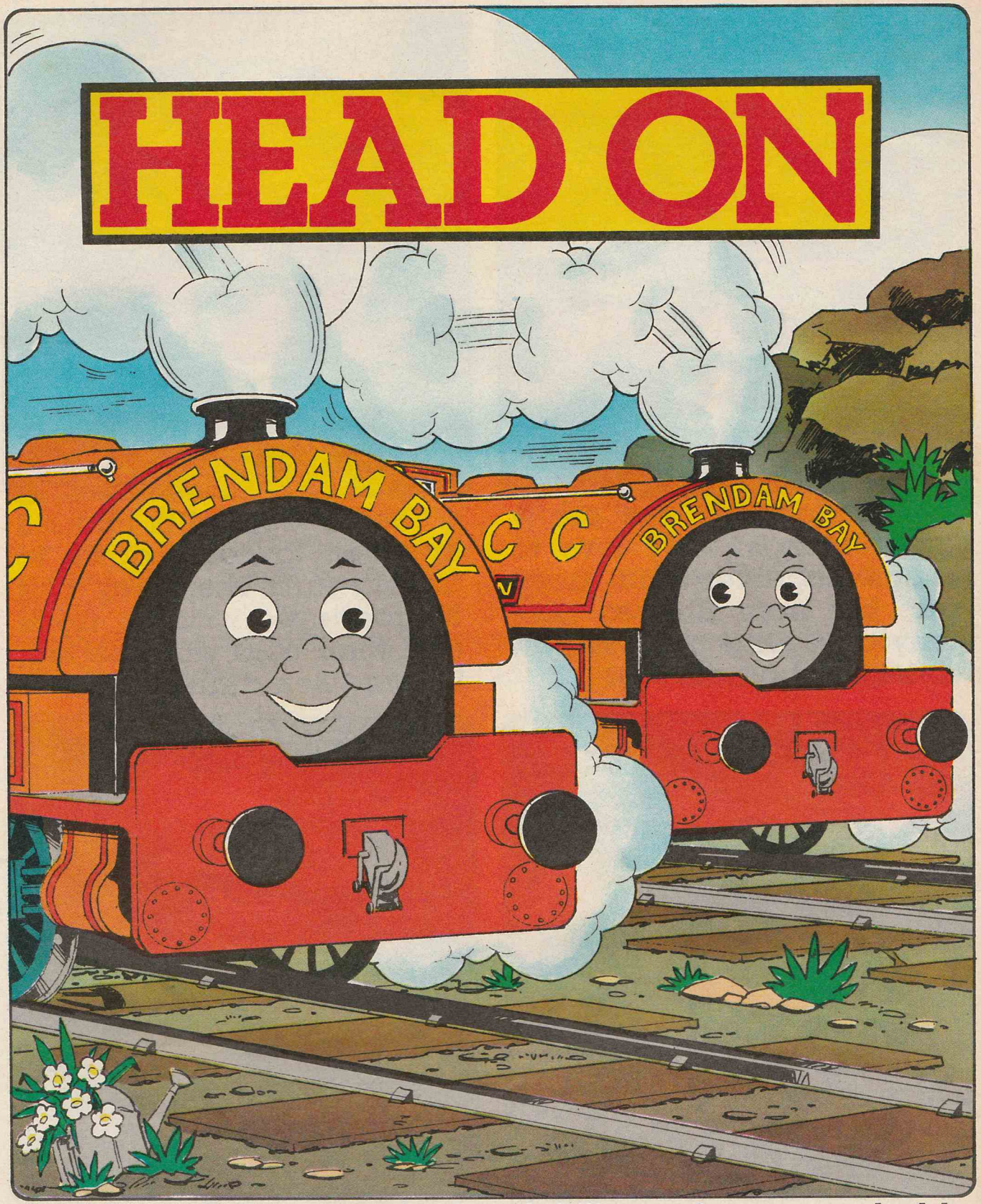
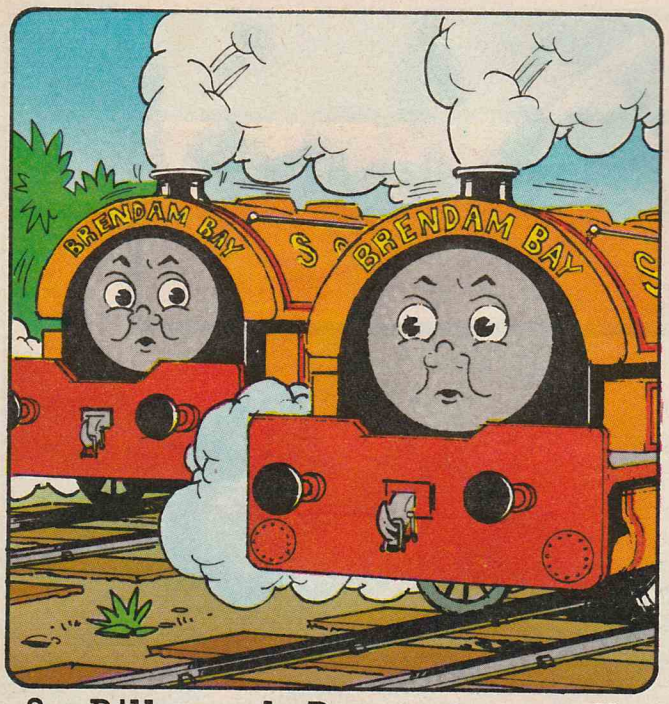
ABC

A listen and look story!

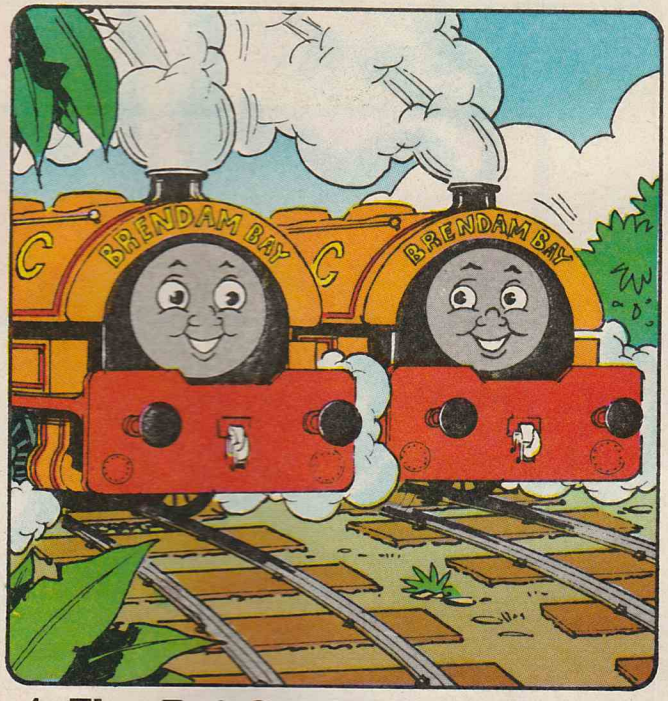


1. Bill and Ben are tank engine twins. They work for the most part on the line which runs from the clay pits to the harbour yard, which is just as well.

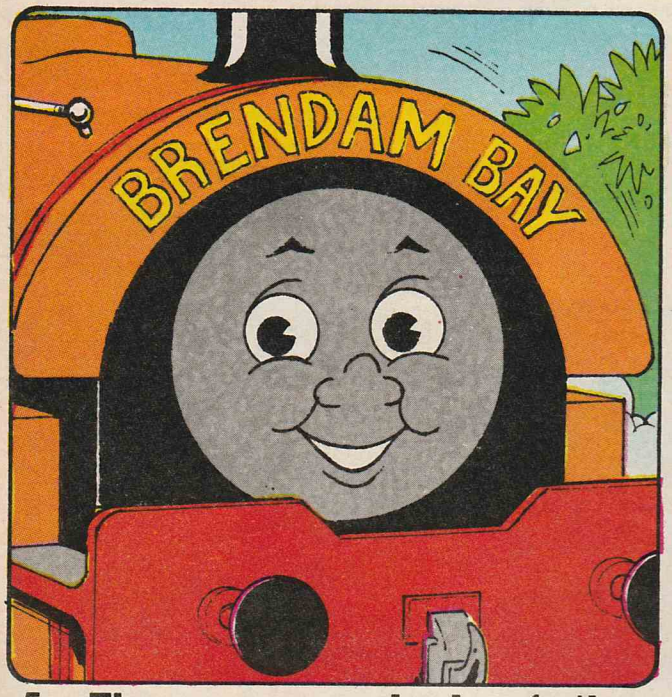
2. Bill and Ben are probably the most mischievous teasing engines working on the Fat Controller's railway. They have caused a fair share of grief with their pranks.



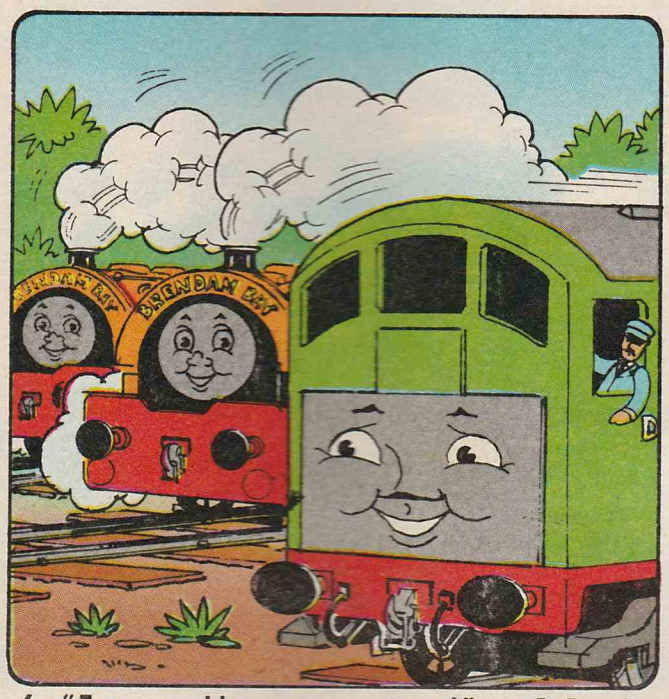
3. Bill and Ben are really great friends. They love to laugh together and have fun, but from time to time they have also been known to be stubborn as well.



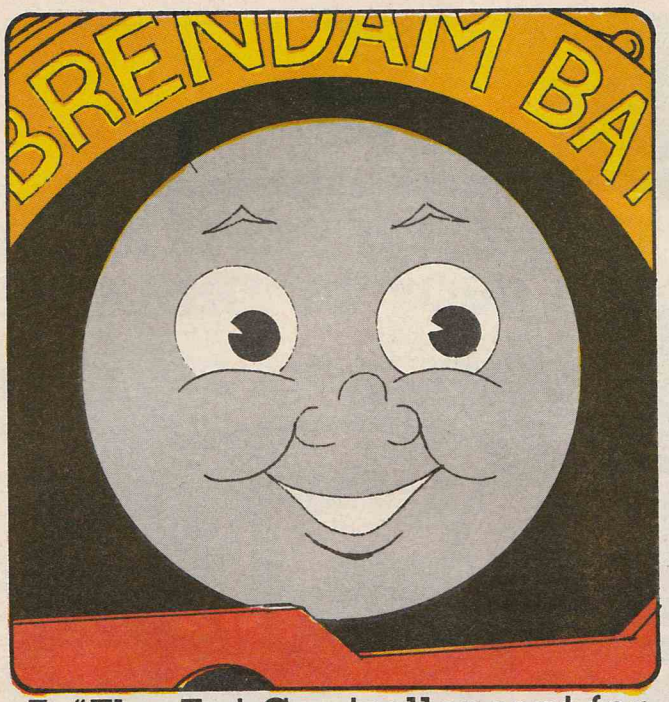
4. The Fat Controller told Bill and Ben to come down to the big yard. There was a lot of goods work to be done and their help was needed. Bill and Ben didn't mind.



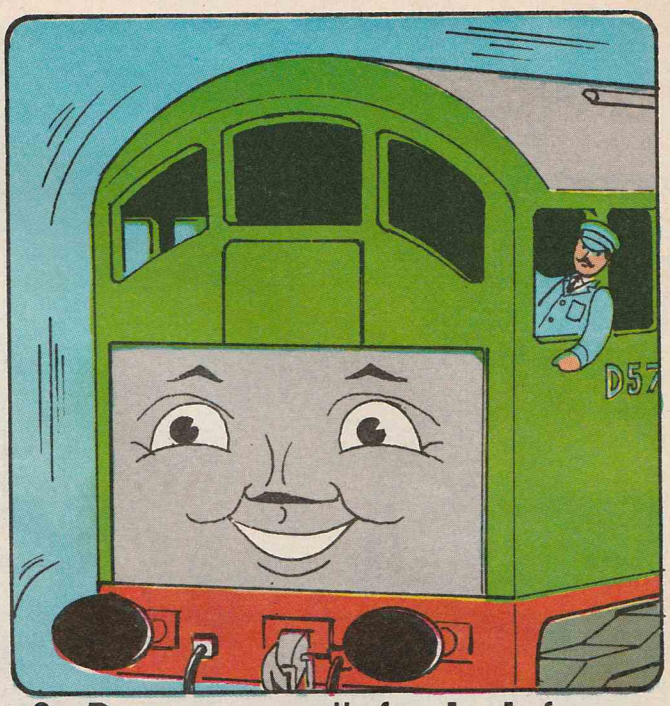
5. They were glad of the change of scenery and the chance to see all the other engines too. "Hullo, Boco!" puffed Bill as the twins arrived in the big yard.



6. "Long time no see!" added Ben. "Uh oh," sighed Boco. "Here comes trouble!" But he was really glad to see them. "What brings you two round this way?" he asked.

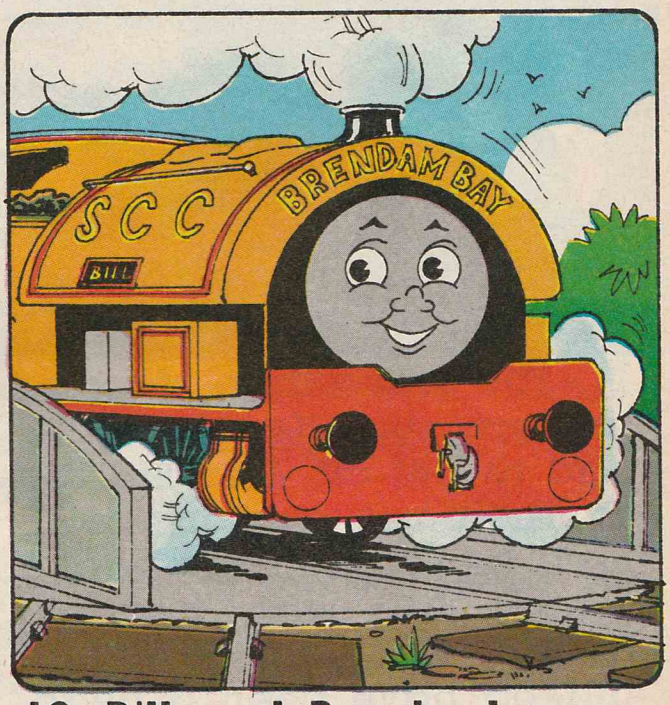


7. "The Fat Controller sent for us," said Ben. "He told us you were tired," added Bill. "He asked us to take all your trains for you!" "Ha ha ha!" laughed Boco.

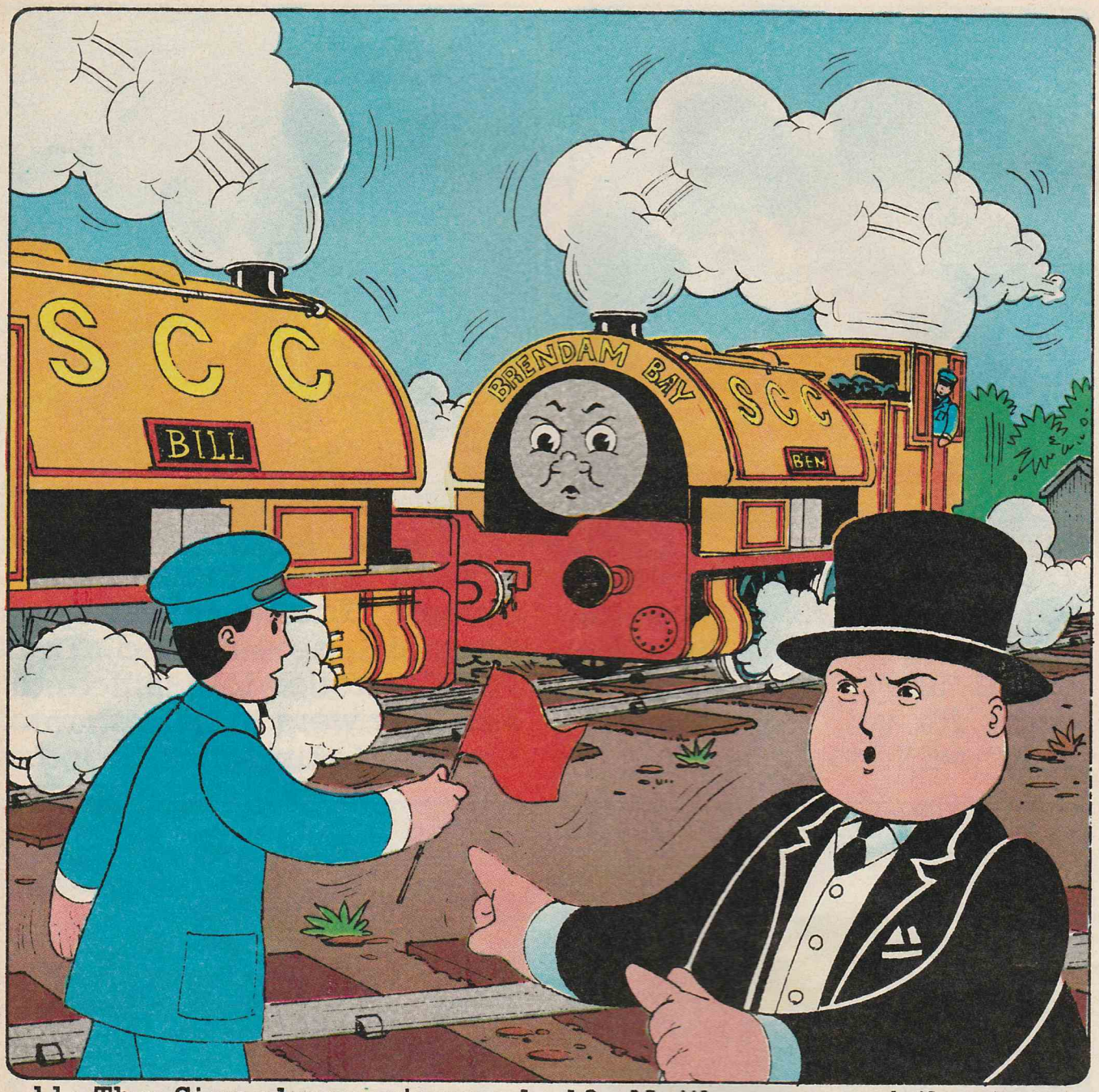


8. Boco wasn't fooled for a second. "You two never stop, do you?" he laughed. The Fat Controller told Bill and Ben they were to help shunting and taking local goods.

9. The two engines set to work. When they had their trucks ready, Bill and Ben had to use the turntable to get themselves turned the right way round.



10. Bill and Ben had never used the turntable before. Bill went first. He thought it was great fun turning around like that. He didn't want to get off at all!



11. The Signalman stopped the turntable. He told Bill he had to get off, and Bill did so. There was only one problem, he was on the wrong track! Bill was heading directly for Ben! It could indeed have been a head-on collision, but Bill and Ben both stopped in time. Then they sat there, face to face and began to feel stubborn.

12. Neither one of the twin tank engines wanted to back down. "I was here first!" said Ben. "But you're in my way," protested Bill. "You will have to back up again!" "I shan't!" said Ben. "You shall have to!" "Deary me!" sighed the Fat Controller when he saw the two engines. He was very cross with them for being so silly!

The story continues on page 13!

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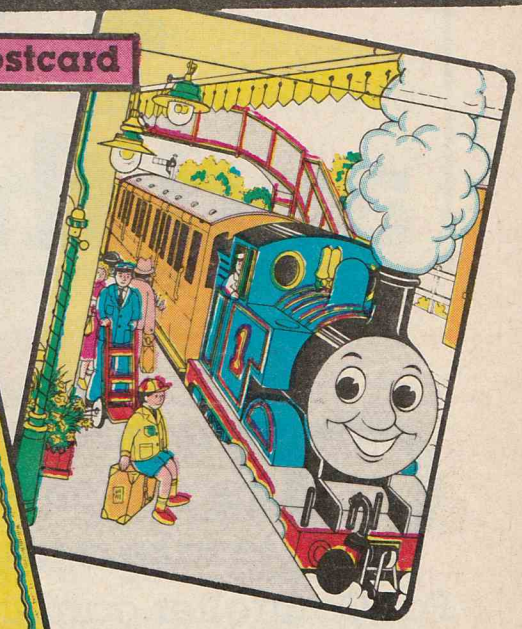

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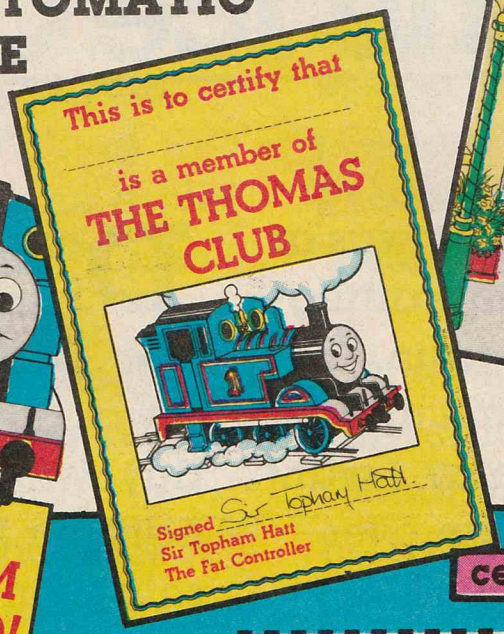

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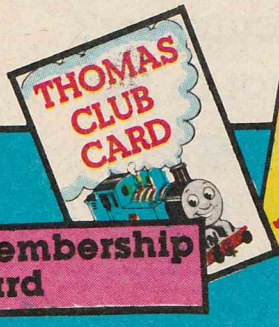

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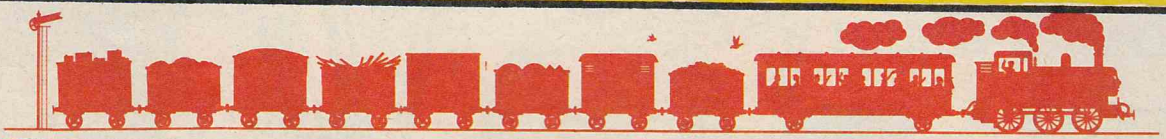
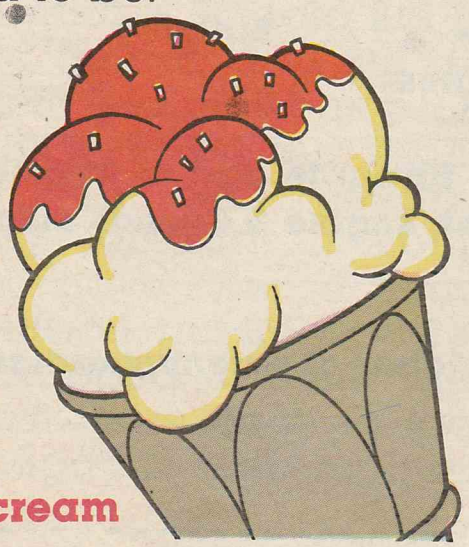
A read-aloud story!

Percy and the Ice Cream



One day Percy was at the station waiting to take a train. The Fat Controller came up to him and said, "Percy, I want you to take that van over there to the village. It contains supplies for Mrs Thompson's shop. Now take it straight there and no dawdling!" Percy did not like that. "I don't dawdle," he thought. "I'm as fast as I need to be."



ice cream

Percy went to get the van and soon he was puffing along the line. It was a very hot summer's day. When they got to the harbour Percy saw a big ship being unloaded with a crane. Percy liked to watch the crane. He had to stop for a signal and then he didn't want to go again.

"Come on," said his driver, "we have to get the supplies to Mrs Thompson!"

"Oh, it will not matter if she has to wait for a few cabbages or whatever it is," said Percy, "I just want to watch the crane for a little while."

"Remember the Fat Controller said you must not dawdle," said the fireman.

"I'm not dawdling," said Percy, "I just want to watch the crane, that's all. Besides, it is too hot to rush around everywhere."

At last Percy moved off again but before they got to the village the driver said to the fireman, "Can you smell something?"

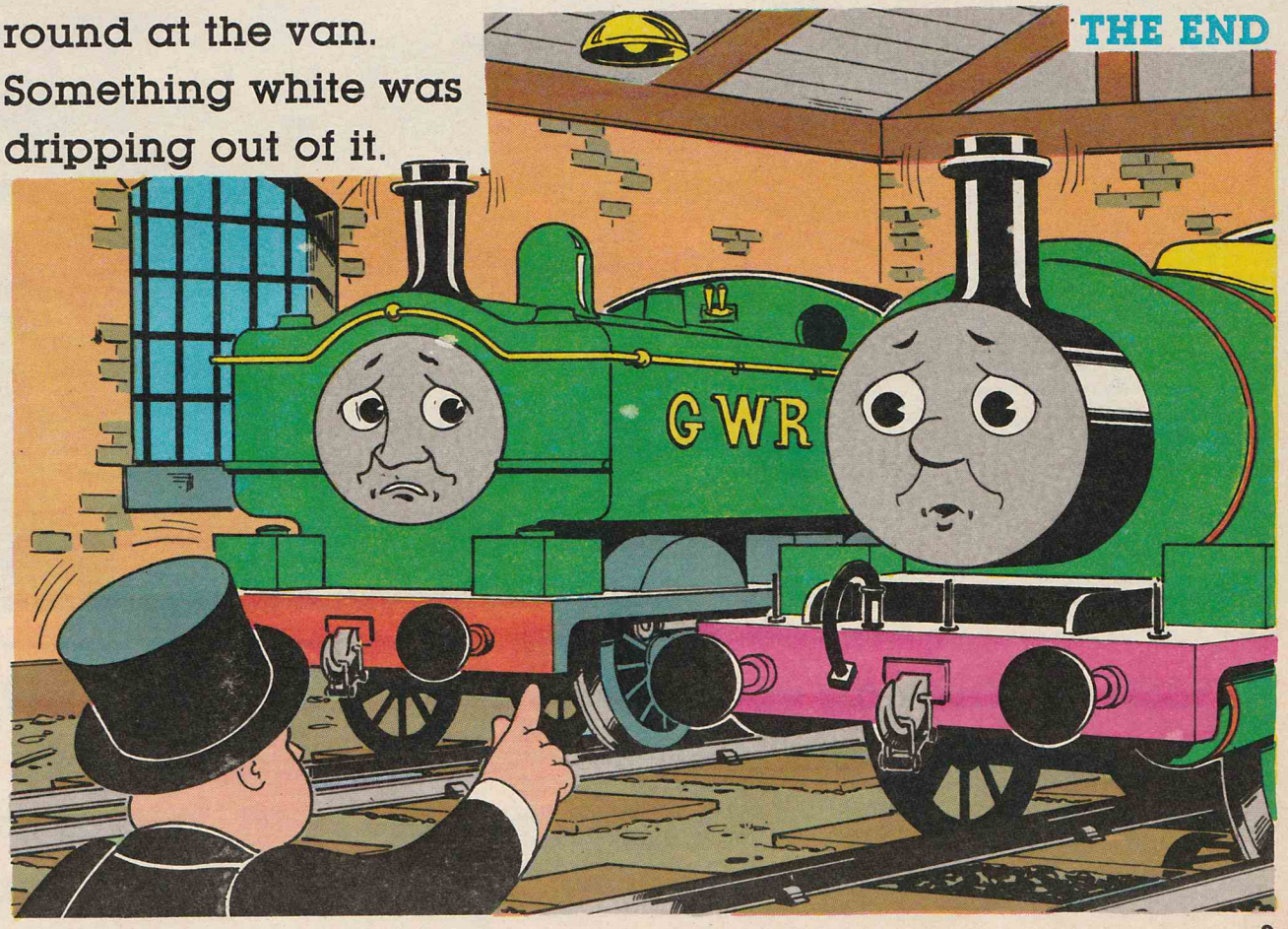
"Yes I can," said the fireman, "something sweet, like ice cream."

"That's what I thought," said the driver. They looked round at the van. Something white was dripping out of it.

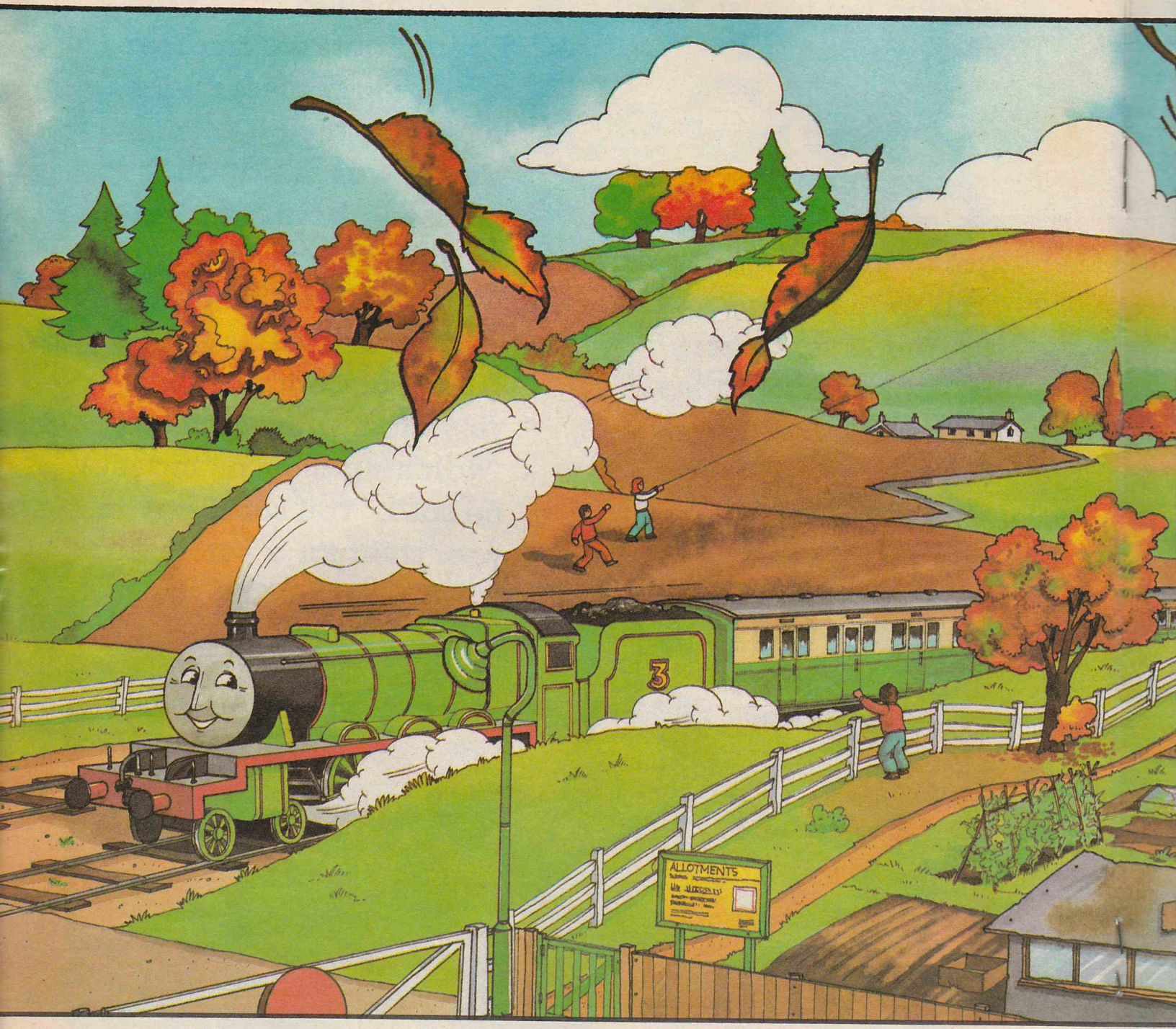
When they got to the village and opened the van lots of melted ice cream poured out and made a nasty, sticky mess on the platform. The Station Master was not at all pleased about that. Mrs Thompson was very cross. "How can I sell melted ice cream?" she asked.

The Fat Controller was very cross with Percy too. "Watching a crane indeed!" he said. "You shall stay in your shed for a whole day."

THE END



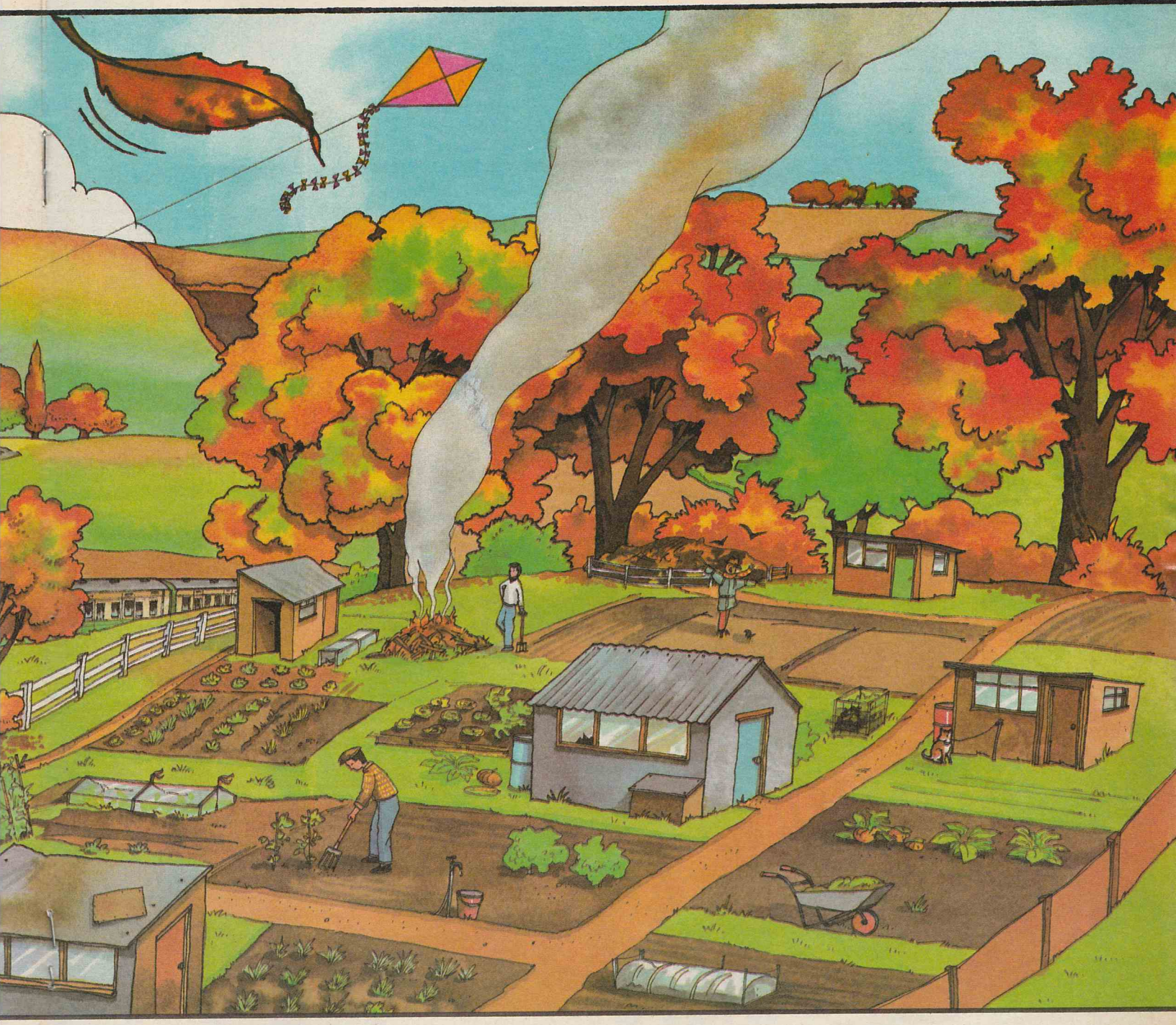
Past the all



Which engine can you see?
Is he pulling trucks of coal?
How many falling leaves can you see?
Point to the wheelbarrow!

What colour is the
Can you see a dog
Which sort of veget
How many sheds a

lotments!



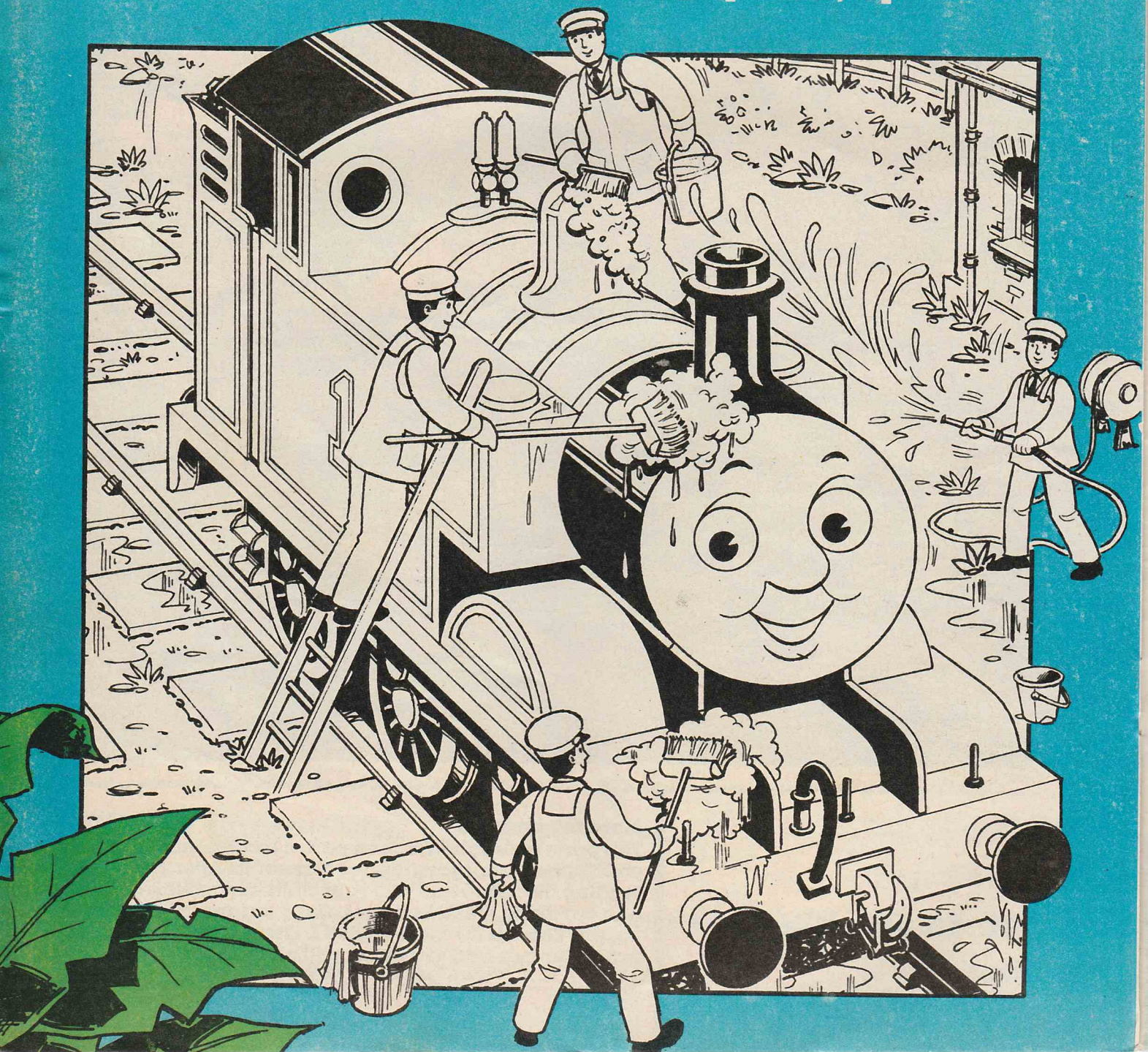
is the kite?
a dog?
f vegetables do you like?
neds are there?

Note for parents
This page is designed to form part of a colourful mural for your child's bedroom, playgroup or classroom. After you have finished reading the magazine with your child, detach this centrespread and cut along the dotted lines. There is a 'mural page' in every issue of **Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends**. Collect each one and watch Thomas and his friends puff all round the room!

Next issue: Past the barbeque party!

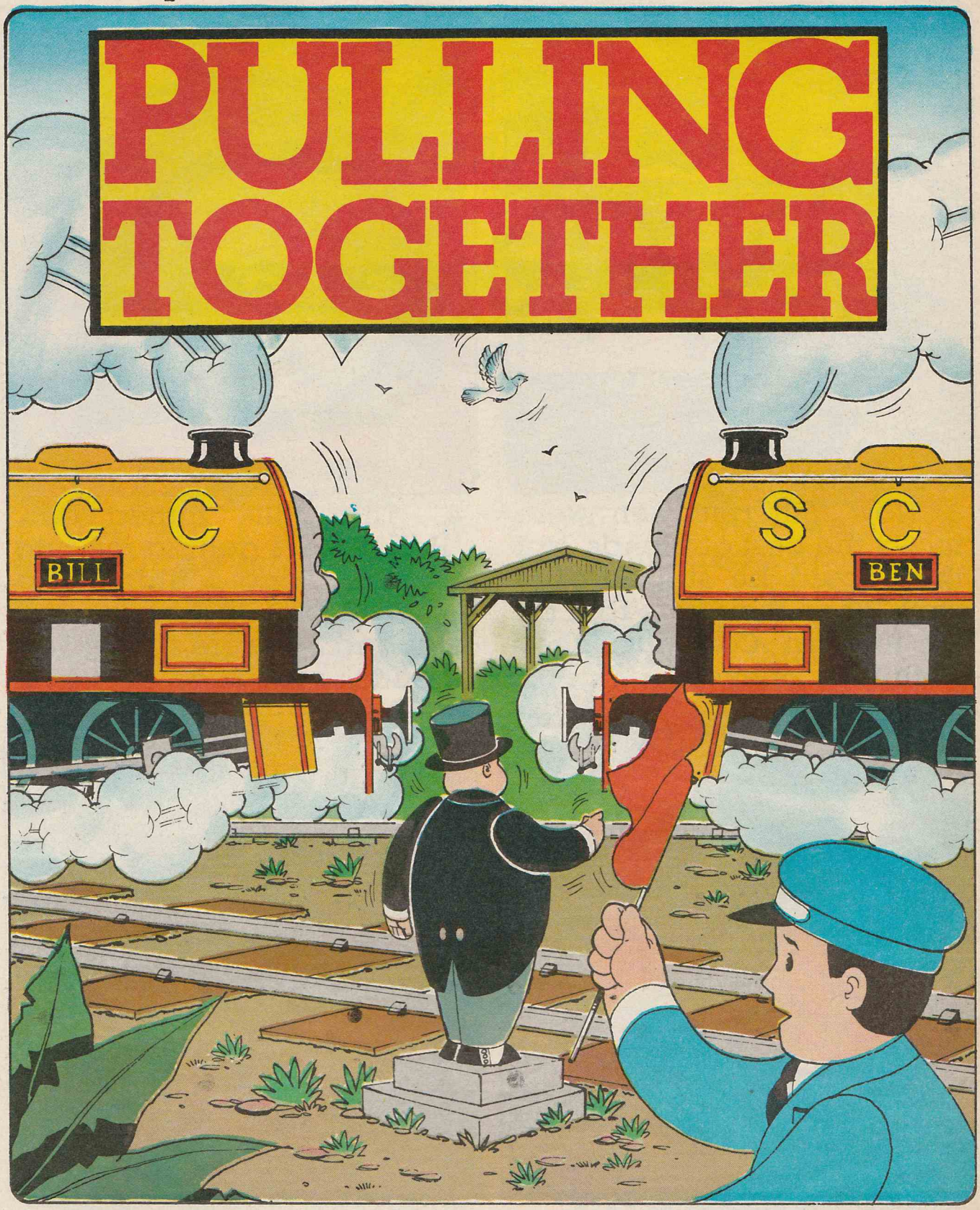
COLOURING TIME!

Look at Thomas having a wash,
Then colour him in – splish, splash, splosh!



The story continues!

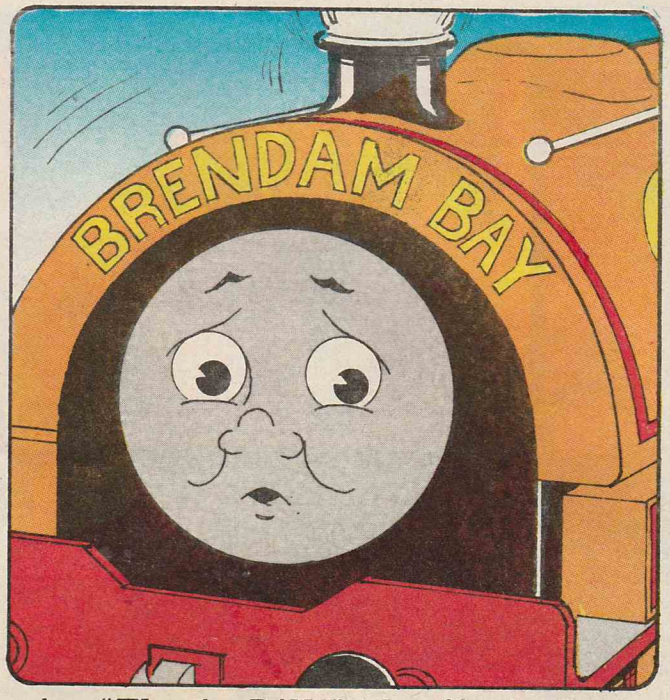
PULLING TOGETHER



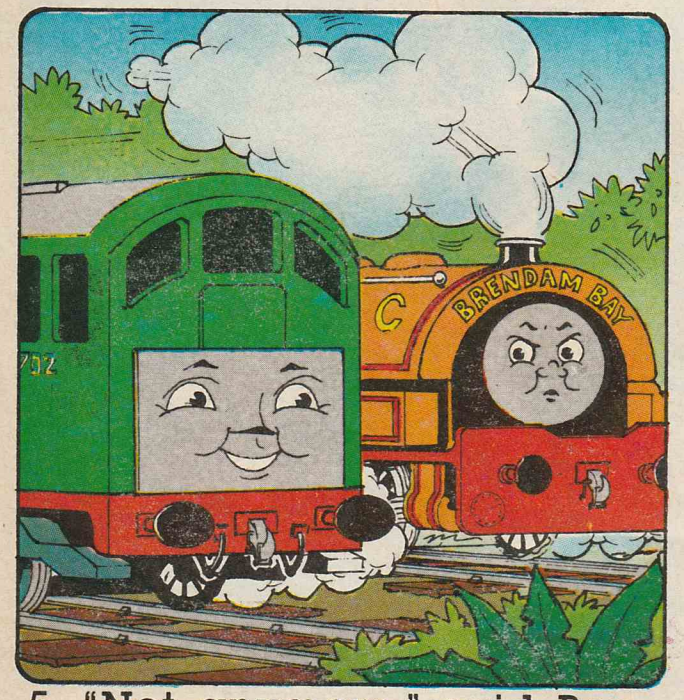
1. Bill and Ben had both come to work in the big yard. After a problem on the turntable, they had ended up face to face on the same track.

2. Neither of them wanted to back down, so they had just stayed where they were. In the end, the Fat Controller had had to sort them out. He was, naturally, rather cross.

3. Now, Bill and Ben were really the best of friends, but they could be stubborn as well. When they were told off by the Fat Controller they both took offence.

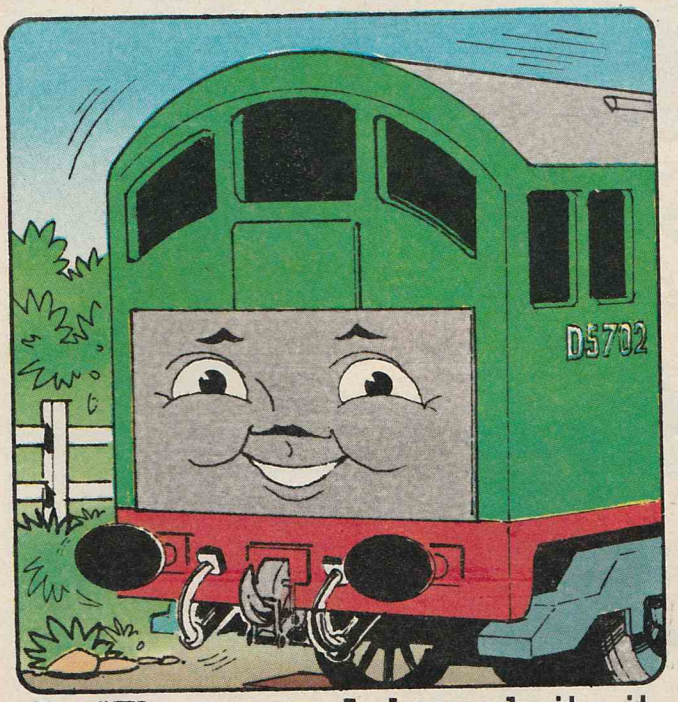


4. "That Bill!" huffed Ben. "He's always getting me into trouble!" Boco couldn't help overhearing. "I thought that you and Bill were such good friends," said Boco.

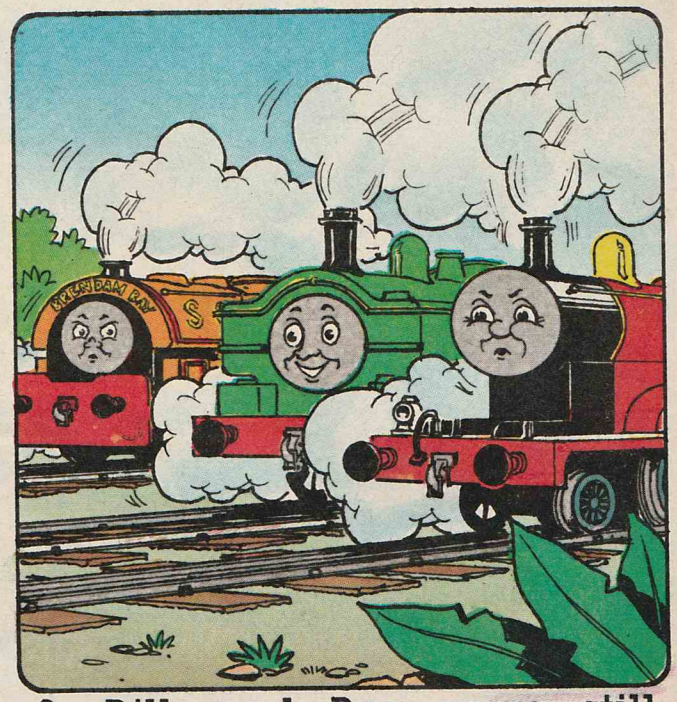


5. "Not anymore," said Ben. "I've had just about all I can take from that stubborn old tank engine!" He stormed away, puffing out too much steam and bumping trucks.

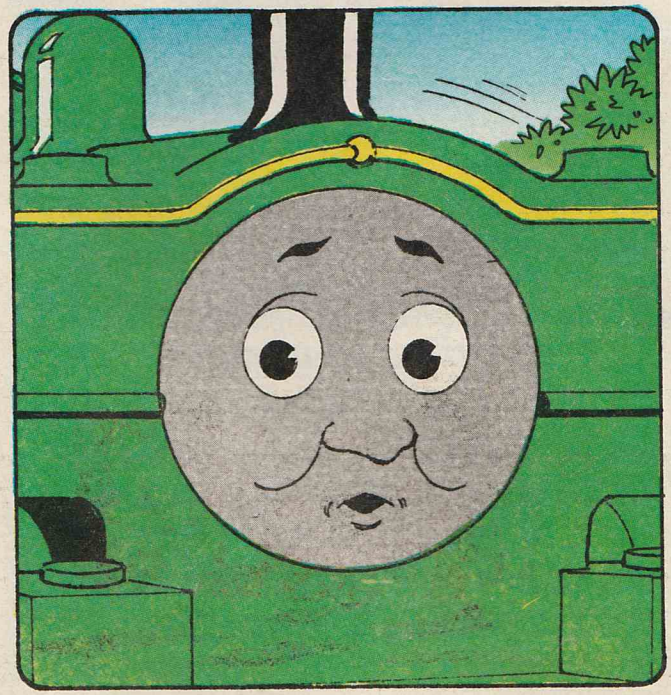
6. Bill was no better. "That Ben!" he moaned. "Imagine getting in my way like that and then refusing to back down again! The nerve of that silly little engine!"



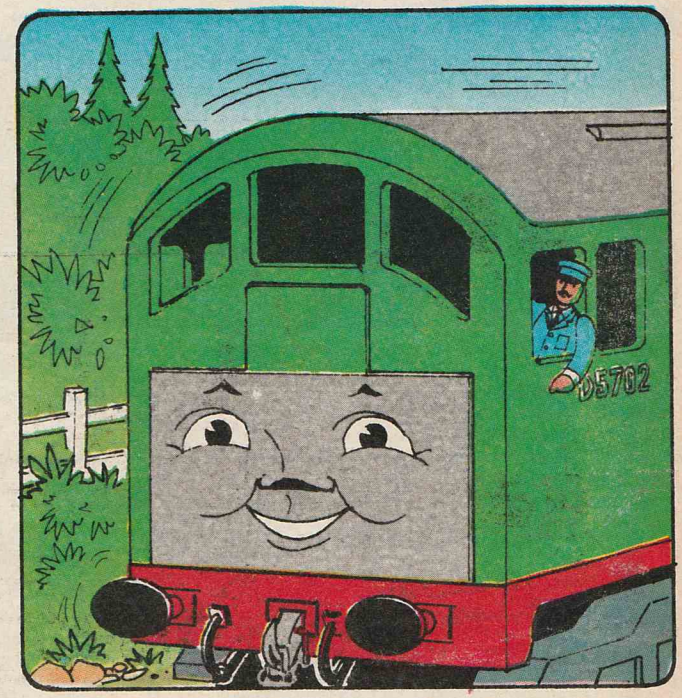
7. "The way I heard it, it sounded like you were both to blame," said Boco. "Pah!" grumbled Bill rudely. "You must have heard it all wrong then!" He let off steam.



8. Bill and Ben were still grumbling about each other the next day, and the other engines didn't like it. Even James didn't think it was funny after a while.



9. "Dear me," sighed Duck. "It doesn't make for a very good working atmosphere in the yard." "I quite agree," said Boco. "And that's why I've come up with a plan."



10. Boco told Duck about his plan. Duck thought that it was a very good plan, but Boco would have to arrange it with the Fat Controller to be able to carry it out.

11. The Fat Controller liked Boco's plan. The very next morning, he called Bill and Ben into the yard. "Boco's out taking an early morning special," he said. "So his regular heavy goods train is waiting on the siding. You two can pull it together." "But . . . But . . ." protested Bill and Ben. The Fat Controller didn't listen.

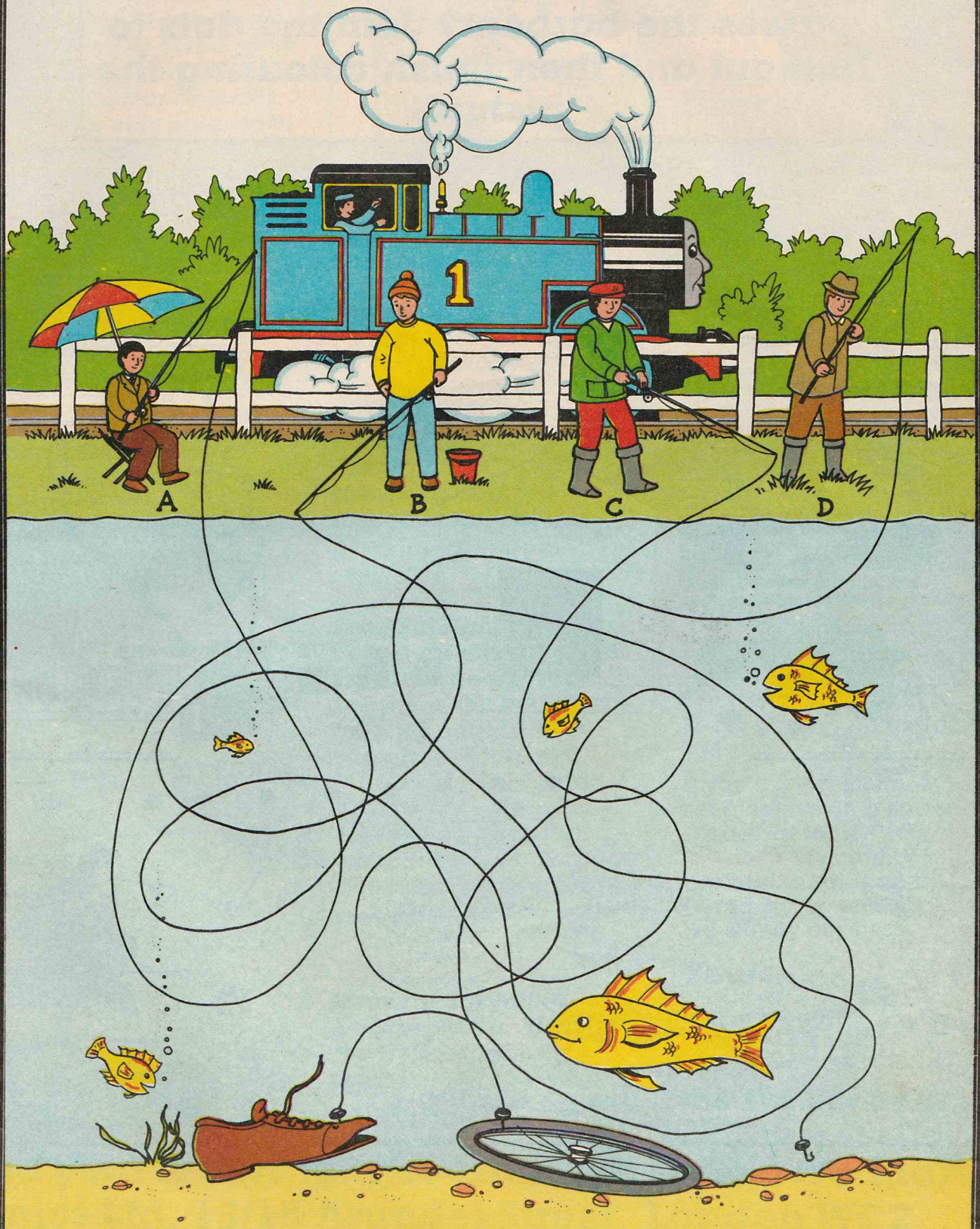
12. "I'll take it myself," said Ben. "Fine," said Bill. "Go right ahead." Bill was coupled up, but the train was much too heavy! "Go on," said Ben. "I can't!" said Bill. He began to laugh. Ben was laughing too. "I guess we'll just have to pull it together," said Bill. Ben was happy to agree. It was good to be friends again.

THE END

In our next issue: Bertie's bumpy road!

PUZZLE TIME

Thomas would like to go fishing too.
Who's caught a fish and who's caught a shoe?

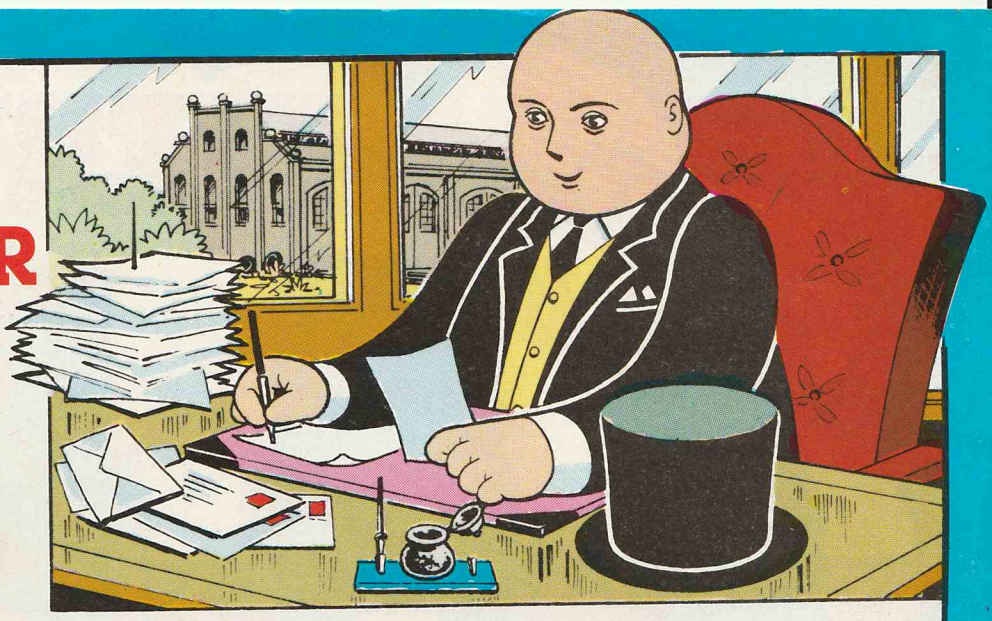


JOIN THE DOTS!

What do you think Duck can see as he passes the harbour? Join the dots to find out and then finish colouring the picture!

Y3

Write to the FAT CONTROLLER



Have you got an amusing story to tell? Do you have a question you would like to ask about Thomas – or any of the other engines? Then why not write to me at the address below? I should be so very pleased to hear from you!

★★★★★★★★★

STAR LETTER!

Dear Fat Controller,
My daddy says that he has only got one hat. How many hats do you have?

From **Eric**, aged 5.

I have lots of different hats. But for work on the railway I always wear the same style of black hat. I think that it looks rather splendid. . . don't you?

★★★★★★★★★

Eric wins a splendid Thomas the Tank Engine torch from *Uni-lite Leisure Ltd.*

TIMETABLES!

Dear Fat Controller,
Do you work out all the engines' timetables yourself?

From **Alastair**, aged 8.

Yes. . . I always work out the engines' schedules by myself. Being in charge of the railway and all its engines means taking full responsibility for everything.

BEST LOOKING!

Dear Fat Controller,
I have an electric train set. Thomas the Tank Engine is my best looking engine.
Love from **Christopher**, aged 4.

Well, well. . . he will be pleased to hear that when I tell him. Thomas does like the occasional compliment, you know!

HOW OFTEN!

Dear Fat Controller,
Do you ride in Harold the Helicopter very often?

*From **Adam**, aged 5.*

Indeed I do! Especially if I have an important meeting to attend. Harold is very fast and always keen to oblige.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Our very best birthday wishes go to:

Ben Williams (20612), Andrew Shaklin, Craig Thomas Dealtry (27636), Michael Sullivan, Anthony Carlr (15185), Christopher Plumber, Jemma King, Oliver Dean, Ian Harrison (0798), Simon Edmonds, Anthony and Jonathon Dickenson, Paul Roth, Peter and Katherine Witham, Joanne Chant (28469), Louise McFarlene, Paul Atkinson, Nicholas Jones (29007), Steven Finch, Christopher Dyer (10610), Adam Geoffrey Curtis and Kum Luc Robinson.

Many happy returns to you all!

If you'd lke a mention, just send details on a postcard please, at least **9 weeks in advance**. We cannot promise to print all the birthdays we receive, but we will try our best!

Yours,

Sir Topham Hatt.

the Fat Controller.

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Peep Peep EVERYONE

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